

NAME REDACTED

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**Topic 1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW**

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Dear Independent Forestry Panel,

I support an immediate end to native forest logging. I support a future industry based on sustainable plantations utilising world's best practices and transparency. I support making NSW a global leader in addressing climate change, protection of native species, and natural disaster risk-mitigation while delivering positive economic outcomes for the people of NSW.

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**Topic 2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values**

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Native forest ecosystems are irreplaceable. Natural habitat connectivity, endangered species, biodiversity and the ecosystem health cannot be "re-created". In addition, forestry operations, especially those of Forestry Corporation NSW, are reportedly to be deliberately targeting threatened species. This is cited to include critical Koala habitat within the Great Koala National Park assessment area and Greater Glider refugia in multiple NSW State Forests. Allowing native forest logging to continue totally undermines the environmental credentials of the current NSW Government, and any future NSW Governments.

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**Topic 3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail**

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I read that around 90% of Australia's timber needs are already being met by current plantations, therefore it is logical that stopping native forest logging should have minimal impact on the demand for timber products in the NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail sectors. I read that products from NSW logging operations are mostly woodchips for export, and low value products such as pallets and tomato stakes. Why are we destroying our heritage, losing our native animals and increasing our flood and bush fire risks for woodchips, pallets and tomato stakes?

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**Topic 4. The future of softwood and hardwood plantations and the continuation of Private Native Forestry in helping meet timber supply needs**

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I support a future industry based on sustainable plantations utilising world's best practices and transparency. Improving the domestic management of existing plantations and shifting to higher-value plantations would improve the productivity and financial returns of the NSW timber industry. Ending public forest subsidies would allow tax dollars to be allocated to more efficient, transparent and sustainable industry outcomes and higher-value plantation products. I support making NSW a global leader in addressing climate change, protection of native species, and natural disaster risk-mitigation while delivering positive economic outcomes and meeting timber supply needs for the people of NSW.

**Topic 5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models**

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Native forests have a critical environmental role in carbon storage, the water cycle, providing critical habitat for our unique flora and fauna and reducing fire risk. The social role and economic future for NSW native forests is in recreation and tourism. These are the growth industries for NSW. These are the industries where there are expanding job creation opportunities -- not woodchips, pallets and tomato stakes!

**Topic 6. Opportunities to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits and support carbon and biodiversity markets, and mitigate and adapt to climate change risks, including the greenhouse gas emission impacts of different uses of forests and assessment of climate change risks to forests**

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Carbon and biodiversity benefits for NSW are most easily and timely attained by ending native forest logging now, immediately. Do not attach carbon offsets and, potentially very manipulable, biodiversity markets to an end of native forest logging. Attaching carbon offsets and other "clever" financial and environmental instruments to the end of native forest logging would appear to be an unconscionable delaying tactic to benefit state forestry agencies with a described history of reported and reputed systemic rule-breaking behaviours. To allow the continued destruction of our precious, diminishing and irreplaceable native forests and threatened species for the production of woodchips, pallets and tomato stakes in order to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits is, in my opinion, (literally) unbelievable "greenwashing" (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenwashing>: <https://asic.gov.au/about-asic/news-centre/articles/what-is-greenwashing-and-what-are-its-potential-threats/> ). Do not attach carbon offsets to an end of native forest logging. Recognise the role of native forests in mitigating the biodiversity and climate crises.